तथापि, छठी योजना के अन्त तक गंगा थाले में सतही जल द्वारा सिंचित कुल अनुमानित क्षेत्र लगभग 10.53 मिलियन हैक्टेयर है ।

(ग) भारत और बंगलादेश के जल साधन और सिंचाई मंत्रियों की एक बैठक मई 1987 में विशेषज्ञों की संयुक्त समिति जिसे अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ दोनों देशों के साझे उपलब्ध जल संसाधनों के बटवारे के लिए विकल्पों का पता लगाने का कार्य सौंपा गया है, के कार्य की पुनरीक्षा करने के लिए हुई थी । वे अपनी-अपनी सरकारों के प्रमुखों को इस आशय की सिफारिश करने के लिए सहमत हो गये कि विशेषज्ञों की संयुक्त समिति छः मास की और अवधि के लिए अपना कार्य जारी रख सकती है।

Filling of the post of Chairman of coconut development board

4208. KUMARI SUSHILA TIR1A: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the reason for not filling up the post of Chairman of the Coconut Development Board ; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YO-GENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The Post of Chairman, Coconut Develop-merit. Board was circulated among the major coconut growing states. Agricultural Universities and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research four months in advance of the expiry of the term of the last Chairman. Simultaneously, candidature of non-officiaIs has also been considered. A proposal for appointment of a regular chairman is presently under consideration of the competent authority.

Further, for carrying out the statutory functions of the chairman, Coconut Development Board, the Horticulture Commissioner to the Government of India has been appointed Chairman in addition to his own duties till the new incumbent joints.

Ongoing irrigation Projects in the Country

4209. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of on-going irrigation projects which are still to b_e completed; and

(b) what steps have been taken for their early completion in view of acute drought situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON); (a) 181 major and 433 medium on-going irrigation projects which 'nave spilled over into the VII Plan have yet to be completed.

(b) The State Governments have been advised to prioritise the projects for optimal allocation of available resources and lay stress on completion! of on-going projects. To promote the above object, the Union Government is earmarking the P[a]n outlays for important projects individua'ly and external assistance is also being arranged, wherever possible, to step up the resources.

Drought situation in Orissa

4210. SHRI BASUDEV MOHAPATRA; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Orissa had recently submitted a memorandum to the Central Government on the prevailing drought condition of the State;

(b) if so. what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to send a central team to Orissa to assess the real situat'on arising out of drought; and

(d) if so, by when the team is likely to visit ihe Slate?